Attorney's Docket No.: 10559-0633001 / P12144

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Carl S. Marshall et al. Art Unit: 2125

Serial No.: 10/039,425 Examiner: Carlos R. Ortiz Rodrigue

Filed: January 4, 2002 Confirmation No.: 8967

Notice of Allowance Date: February 10, 2009

Title DETERMINING A NODE PATH THROUGH A NODE GRAPH

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

It is recognized that in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 1302.14, the Examiner's reasons for allowance need not set forth all of the details as to why the claims are allowed. In the above-referenced application, it is not conceded that the Examiner's stated reasons for allowance are the only reasons for which the claims are allowable. The Examiner's reasons for allowance indicate that particular claim elements are not disclosed or suggested by the prior art of record, yet the claims may be patentable for other reasons as well, including the inventive combination of all of the recited claim elements. It is not conceded that the specific limitations identified by the Examiner are necessary to distinguish the art of record or to satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. Moreover, the Examiner does not assert, and it would not be conceded, that the Examiner's reasons have any bearing on the patentability of claims in any other applications directed to the disclosed subject matter.

In addition, each dependent claim stands on its own and may be allowable on its own merits. In particular, each dependent claim may be allowable on the basis of a combination of some of the features recited in the dependent claim and its base claim(s), which combination of features may not include all of the limitations identified in the Examiner's reasons for allowance.

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